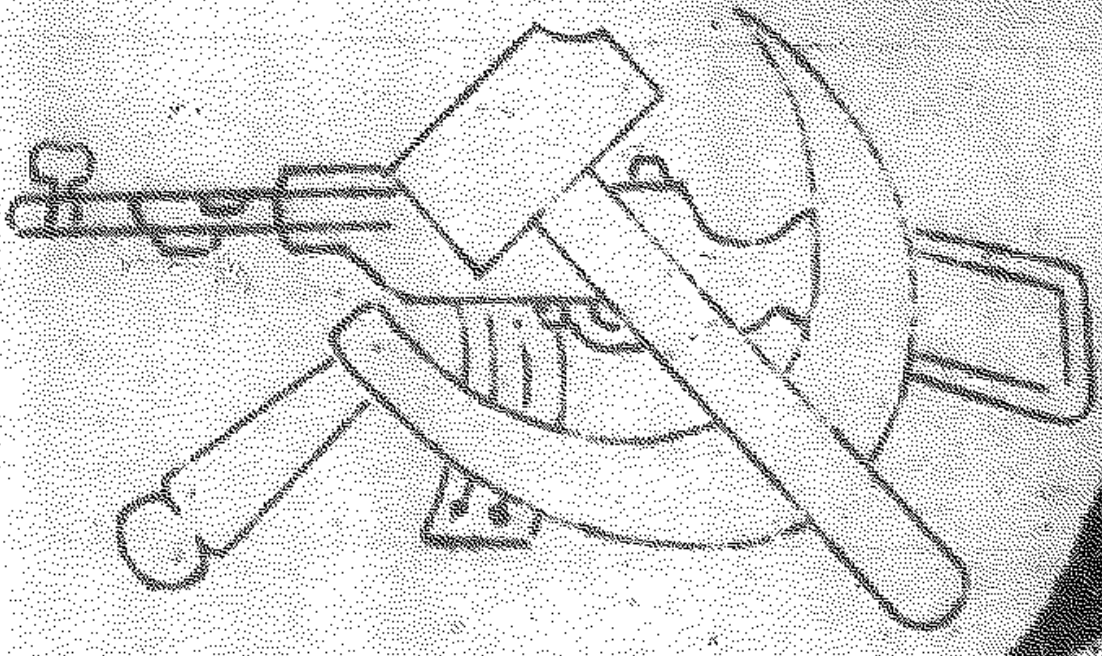


# ANG

PAHAYAGAN NG PARTIDO KOMUNISTA NG PILIPINAS  
PINAPATNUBAYAN NG  
MARXISMO - LENINISMO - KATIPANG MAO TSETUNG



# Bayan

Volume IX Number 9

(English Edition)

July 15, 1977

## C O N T E N T S

RESURGENT STUDENT MOVEMENT  
SWEEPS COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES p. 1

LIFT MARIATIAL LAW, GIVE WAY  
TO CIVIL LIBERTIES, CLU DEMANDS p. 3

ASEAN--STILL ANOTHER MILITARY ALLIANCE p. 4

CAN ASEAN BE AN INSTRUMENT FOR ECONOMIC  
INDEPENDENCE AND DEVELOPMENT? p. 5

MASS CULTURAL WORK ADVANCES  
IN NPA GUERRILLA ZONES p. 7

RURAL MASS ORGANIZATIONS  
BOOST FOOD PRODUCTION p. 8

MARCOS REGIME TOLD TO RELEASE  
ALL TORTURED POLITICAL PRISONERS p. 9

POLITICAL PRISONERS REAFFIRM UNITY  
WITH ALL NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FIGHTERS p. 10

DEPARTURE OF ACCUSED U.S. SOLDIERS  
SHOWS MARCOS PUPPETRY TO IMPERIALISM p. 11

THAI PARTY, PEOPLE'S ARMY  
SCORE VICTORIES IN PEOPLE'S WAR p. 12



RESURGENT STUDENT MOVEMENT  
SWEEPS COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES

---

A storm of protest swept through several Metro Manila colleges and universities in recent weeks in militant opposition to the oppressive tuition fee increases authorized by the Marcos fascist regime.

Starting with only a few scores of students at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezón City, the protest movement soon gathered strength and spread to other schools, including the University of the East, Araneta Foundation, Adamson University and Trinity College.

In standing up for their rights, the aroused student masses thus linked arms with the workers, peasants and other oppressed classes and sectors in waging struggle against the fascist dictatorship.

Mass actions in the Metro Manila campuses took the form of signing of protest petitions, classroom-to-classroom campaigns, cultural presentations, marches and boycotts of classes. Parents united with their children in the struggle.

Fascist goons in plainclothes and in uniform were very much around, especially at UP, in an effort to stop the growing movement. Their presence instead fed the flames of protest and mobilized more and more students, their parents, and even teachers.

At the height of the protest movement at UP last June 30, indignant shouts of "Boycott! Boycott!" and "Makibaka, huwag matakot!" filled the halls of the College of Arts and Sciences as more than 8,000 students and faculty members staged a protest march and mass meeting.

A streamer bearing the slogan "Rechannel military funds to education!" was positioned at the center of the protesters.

Target of the mass actions were the oppressive tuition fee hikes approved by UP officials led by the top Marcos agent in the state university, Onofre Corpuz. Without any consultations with the students, tuition fees were jacked up by as much as 500 percent in some colleges of the university.

In other schools, it was the yearly 15 percent increase in fees approved by the regime that roused the ire of the studentry.

While the increases in the privately owned colleges and universities were granted by the Marcos regime on petition of the capitalists who run these institutions, at UP it was made in the guise of "democratizing" the state university.

But, as pointed out by the Alyansa Laban sa Pagtaas ng Tuition Fee (Alliance Against Tuition Fee Increases) in its statement of June 24, the state holds the primary responsibility of educating its citizens, and should extend free education instead of unnecessarily burdening the students and their parents.

Then, exposing the real motive of the regime in increasing tuition fees at UP, the students said it meant to channel more public funds to beef up the parasitic military apparatus, among other wasteful state undertakings.

The student protest started during the registration period in early June. The Alyansa emerged from the unity of several student organizations and put forth two main demands: roll back the tuition fees to their previous levels and refund those who had already paid the increased fees.



Petition papers were circulated and on June 10, a group of 120 students under the banner of the alliance demonstrated at the UP administration building, bearing streamers and distributing position papers. Troops of the PC Metrocom rushed to the scene but failed to intimidate the protesters.

By their persistence, the students won concessions from the UP administration. The registration period was extended and the P10 late registration fine was scrapped. Modest as this victory was, it showed the justness of the students' demands and fired them to prepare for even bigger struggles.

In the next few days, Corpuz and other university authorities frenziedly tried to explain the tuition fee hike. But they kept sidetracking the real essence of democratization--consultation with the students who, after all, are directly affected by the scheme, and representation in the UP board of regents through a democratically elected student council.

In the days and weeks that followed, students presented skits depicting the problems encountered by students and workers and their struggles.

The slogans became more militant: "Ibagsak ang batas militar!" (Down with martial law!) and "Marcos, Hitler, diktador, tuta!" (Marcos, Hitler, dictator, running dog!)

Meantime, at UE where tuition fees had been hiked four times since martial law, students formed an Alyansa chapter despite the strict ban on student organizations in the campus. Within a few weeks, the Alyansa mobilized over 6,000 students in support of a petition for a rollback in their fees.

Students at the Adamson University formed the Komite Laban sa Pagtaas ng Tuition Fee. In a few days, the group was able to mobilize thousands of students against the tuition fee increase.

At Trinity College, military intervention was the regime's response to the rapidly intensifying struggle of the students. Metrocom troops descended on the campus and threatened to arrest anyone joining the protest movement. Undaunted, students and teachers formed a united front to launch bigger mass actions.

Troops of the Metrocom and agents of the PC Criminal Investigation Service also stormed the campus of the Araneta Foundation as the Alyansa ng Samahang Mag-aaral mobilized college and high school students and teachers alike. Students boycotted classes twice in protest. In the end, the university authorities backtracked and refunded the increase in fees.

Repressed since the imposition of martial law, the student masses are following the lead of militant workers who launched a strike movement in 1975-1976.

In the various campuses, students are activating the Kabataang Makabayan (KM), one of the vanguard youth mass organizations in the democratic cultural revolution that reached a high point in the First Quarter Storm of 1970.

The youth are full of vitality. The student movement is injecting fresh momentum to the rapid development of the people's democratic movement led by the working class.

By their vigorous and creative participation in the revolutionary mass movement, the students are ensuring the accomplishment of their objectives. In the country's factories, fields and schools, the youth are following the lead of the proletariat in laying the ground for the structures of their tomorrow.



LIFT MARTIAL LAW, GIVE WAY  
TO CIVIL LIBERTIES, CLU DEMANDS

The U.S.-Marcos dictatorship is under renewed pressure to lift martial law and give way to civil liberties.

In a resolution which is being widely circulated, the Civil Liberties Union (CLU) of the Philippines said the nation would suffer further "irreparable and irreversible damage" unless the existing fascist regime is dismantled.

In particular, the CLU wants 1) the lifting of martial law; 2) the restoration of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus; 3) the removal of all present limitations on the right of free speech and free assembly; 4) the release of all political prisoners; 5) the removal of all present members of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and the designation, in their place, of men of proven integrity and impartiality; 6) the investment of these men with full control over the Armed Forces of the Philippines; and 7) the holding of elections not less than four months (120 days) thereafter.

The Comelec should be thoroughly reorganized because "the referenda and plebiscites it has supervised were clearly sham" and the people have no confidence in it whatsoever, it added.

In a brief assessment, the CLU said the nation today faces "grave and hard problems" that can be solved only if the people stand united.

The demand of the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro people for self-determination, the problem of Philippine relations with the United States and Japan, and the country's grave economic problem, it said, "are not only difficult in themselves, but all involve the sovereignty and the independence of the nation".

These problems are so fundamental and the consequence of any solution so far-reaching that the people have the right to be heard, it added.

The CLU pointed out that the martial law regime does not have the active and wholehearted support of the people.

In seeking the dismantling of the fascist dictatorship and the holding of elections, the CLU sought the support of the people, the AFP, "persons in and out of government who advise President Marcos", and all civic organizations.

For some of these people, the end of martial law would no doubt involve the end of privilege. But the CLU appealed to their patriotism and called on them to give up their privileges today "that all our children, theirs no less than ours, may enjoy a better tomorrow".

The resolution, dated May 24, 1977, is signed by the CLU's editorial board composed of former Senator Jose W. Diokno, chairman, and former Supreme Court Justices J.B.L. Reyes and Calixto O. Zaldivar, former Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada and businessman Antonio Araneta, members.

The CLU is an organization mainly expressive of the progressive and patriotic views which are especially those of social strata ranging from the urban petty bourgeoisie to the national bourgeoisie. The democratic demands of this organization are linked to those of the broad masses of the people.



## ASEAN--STILL ANOTHER MILITARY ALLIANCE

The long-rotten corpse of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) was finally buried last June 30. But the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has emerged as its more clever replacement.

ASEAN leaders always make it a point to insist that the regional association of the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore is not a military alliance and is not an instrument of U.S. imperialism.

But in the same breath, they express as their main concern the suppression of the people's revolutionary movement in their respective countries. When they talk of military "self-reliance", they mean dependence on U.S. military supplies and the continued presence of U.S. military bases in the region, especially in the Philippines.

The Declaration of ASEAN Concord, put out at the Bali conference in February 1976, explicitly gave first place to the call for security, stability and counterinsurgency over the question of regional economic cooperation and the catchphrase of "peace and neutrality".

Within the framework of the ASEAN, there is open common agreement for the member-governments to exchange military expertise and intelligence and to carry out joint military undertakings on the basis of bilateral agreements.

The Philippine government has sought to isolate and crush the Moro people's struggle for national self-determination through bilateral agreements with Malaysia and also with Indonesia. The Marcos fascist regime is eager to succeed in this regard so that it can use more manpower and supplies against the entire Filipino people and the New People's Army led by the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Malaysia has actually helped the Philippine government in reducing if not cutting off supplies from abroad for the Bangsa Moro Army headed by the Moro National Liberation Front. Moreover, both Malaysia and Indonesia have helped the Philippine government in anti-MNLF diplomatic maneuvers among member-governments of the Islamic Conference.

The Philippine and Indonesian reactionary navies coordinate their patrols in the border waters of the Philippines and Indonesia, with the express intention of guarding against the revolutionaries.

Currently, the Philippine and Indonesian reactionary armed forces are conducting joint military exercises which involve amphibious landings, land maneuvers and reconnaissance under the cover of "civic action". The site for the current joint exercises is Unidos, Aklan and that for the next will be Surabaya, Java. These sites are already quite far from the Philippine-Indonesian borders.

Very much in the news for quite some time are the repeated joint military campaigns of the Malaysian and Thai reactionary armed forces against the revolutionary forces in the border provinces of Malaysia and Thailand. (See story on page 12.) Malaysia and Singapore have also continuously cooperated to suppress the Malayan revolutionaries of various nationalities.

In every ASEAN member-state, there is an intensification of anti-communist and antipeople campaigns of suppression. There is the obvious agreement within the ASEAN that these are a concomitant of diplomatic and trade relations, including relations with China and the Indochinese countries.



ASEAN has definitely taken the place of SEATO. The former may even prove to be more effective as a military instrument of U.S. imperialism than the latter if the revolutionary forces do not join up to at least expose and condemn its character as a counterrevolutionary instrument.

Unlike ASEAN, SEATO failed to make use of bilateral military agreements among Southeast Asian countries. It was hamstrung by conflicts between the United States and other member-states. U.S. imperialism had to undertake aggressive military actions solely or mainly on its own.

As developing countries still bound to U.S. imperialism, the ASEAN states cannot truly be self-reliant militarily. Their rapidly increasing expenditures for military personnel, material and operations are bound to undermine their respective governments.

U.S. imperialism may consider itself smart for being able to pass on to ASEAN states the burden of facing up to the people's revolutionary armed struggles. But only for the time being. Eventually, the people's war will win in the unliberated parts of Southeast Asia.

ASEAN has been in a frenzy of activities as a result of the decline of U.S. imperialism in Southeast Asia, particularly its defeat in Indochina; the worsening crisis of the world capitalist system; the intensifying contention between U.S. imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism; and the rise of the third world countries and peoples as the main force against the superpowers.

ASEAN is a holding-out instrument for U.S. imperialism in Southeast Asia as the struggle of the two superpowers intensifies and both are drawn to a head-on collision in Europe and its periphery.

At the same time, the revolutionary people of Southeast Asia are taking the initiative under conditions that are increasingly favorable to them. From the Philippine revolutionary viewpoint, the anticommunist and antipeople military aspect of ASEAN must be opposed.

However, one foreseeable cause for an adjustment of policy in this regard would be the actual or impending outbreak of a world war between the two superpowers. Should Soviet social-imperialism provoke or initiate the war, there would be a clear need to further broaden the united front against it.

\* \* \*

#### CAN ASEAN BE AN INSTRUMENT FOR ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND DEVELOPMENT?

The member-states of ASEAN are economic appendages of the world capitalist system. It will take a revolution to emancipate and properly develop the economy of any of the ASEAN states.

The Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia are basically producers and exporters of raw materials and importers of finished products from the capitalist countries. Singapore is practically only a trading post.

All the member-states of ASEAN are controlled by the foreign monopoly capitalists through direct investments and loans. U.S. imperialism lords over all of them.

There are a few important agricultural and mineral raw materials which are exported by one or more of the ASEAN states and imported by the other ASEAN states from elsewhere. These are petroleum, rice, corn sugar, tin and copper.



But the exchange of these products among the ASEAN members cannot be made to their common advantage because these are controlled by foreign investors and traders who profit more by keeping the pattern of exchanging them with finished products from the capitalist countries.

There are a number of manufactured products exportable from one or more of the ASEAN states and imported by the other ASEAN states from elsewhere. These are cement, specific pharmaceuticals, metal fabrications, agricultural equipment and tools, processed food, paper, rubber products, chemical products, ceramic and glass wares and even reassembled cars.

It is in this kind of trading that the foreign investors and traders are interested so long as it does not tend to remove the pattern of raw-material exports to and finished-product imports from the capitalist countries. As a matter of fact, it is one of the motives of U.S. imperialism in having ASEAN organized in 1967 to promote regional "free trade" and "complementation".

It can be added that U.S. imperialism is also interested in exchanging some goods manufactured in one ASEAN state for raw materials from another. The point is for U.S. imperialism to derive superprofits from the cheap raw materials and cheap labor power available in ASEAN states.

In line with the call for ASEAN industrial projects in the 1976 Declaration of ASEAN Concord, the economic ministers of ASEAN have agreed to establish five regional industrial projects, one in each member-state. Each project would fulfil not only the national requirements of the host country but also a portion of the requirements of the other member-states.

The five ASEAN industrial projects are: urea for Indonesia, another urea for Malaysia, soda ash for Thailand, diesel engines for Singapore, and phosphate fertilizer for the Philippines. These are assigned according to the availability of raw materials in each country.

The capital cost of each project is estimated at over \$800 million. The host country is responsible for 60 percent and the other countries, 10 percent each.

Each country is obliged to own 30 percent of the equity assigned to it but is also allowed to sell 70 percent to the private sector. In this manner, the foreign investors, especially U.S. and Japanese, can control the ASEAN industrial projects. The board of directors of each project would be composed of the representatives of the owners of shares of stocks.

The foreign monopoly capitalists, especially U.S. and Japanese, are also expected to provide loan capital for the equipment and services that have to be obtained from outside the region. This is one more way for the foreign monopolies to tighten their control over the projects.

Of course, in the first place, the raw materials that are the base for the various projects are already under the control of foreign capital. These are natural gas for urea; rock salt for soda ash; and sulfuric acid (as a byproduct of copper smelting) for phosphate fertilizer. Singapore for its part will merely assemble the knocked-down parts of diesel engines from outside the region.

Despite the advantages made available to the foreign monopoly capitalists, the proposed ASEAN industrial projects have run into a snag and have not gone beyond the stage of "prefeasibility" studies.

Although they have another list of industrial projects to recommend for establishment, the ASEAN foreign ministers are preoccupied mainly in their Singapore meeting this month with the difficulties of the traditional exports from ASEAN states as a result of trade restrictions by their capitalist trading partners.



ASEAN states are troubled by increasing trade deficits and balance of payments problems. Thus, they frantically push for talks with Japan, Australia and New Zealand next month and then with the United States in September.

Their previous talks on trade with the European Economic Community in Brussels last April has not at all diminished ASEAN trade worries.

The crisis of the world capitalist system has compelled the ASEAN states to broaden their diplomatic and trade relations in order to dispose of their raw-material exports.

For several years already, the prices of these exports have been pressed down too hard in their traditional markets. And worse, the traditional trading partners have cut down on their purchases from ASEAN states, except in the case of oil from Indonesia and Malaysia.

In trying to widen the market for their exports, the ASEAN states have gone so far as to develop relations with countries that they would otherwise avoid, such as socialist China and the social-imperialist Soviet Union.

While their grave situation drives them to have relations with Soviet social-imperialism, the ASEAN states can find common cause with the rest of the third world countries. The third world demands a new international economic order and looks for a way out from the dilemma of getting off the U.S. imperialist pan only to fall into the Soviet social-imperialist fire.

\* \* \*

#### MASS CULTURAL WORK ADVANCES IN NPA GUERRILLA ZONES

In the different parts of the country today where guerrilla zones have been established, Party cadres, Red fighters and cultural activists from the peasant masses lead in developing popular forms of art and literature which serve as effective weapons in arousing and enlightening the vast masses in the countryside and heightening their level of struggle.

In revolutionary mass meetings and other forms of gathering in the zones, the Red fighters and peasants participate in the singing of well-loved songs such as "Pagbalikwas" (Breaking Free) or in the declamation of a poem such as "Ing Bayaning Erabalu" (The Hero Nobody Knows) written by a Red fighter.

In Montañosa, a member of the armed propaganda unit operating in the region spearheaded the writing of a short play about the sufferings and resistance of vegetable farmers, woodcarvers and other oppressed sectors in Benguet, Bontoc, Ifugao, Kalinga-Apayao, and in the lowlands.

The experiences of the masses and the NPA in resolving their day-to-day problems, their hatred of the enemy and the intensification of the armed struggle are vividly depicted in different forms of art and literature such as songs based on traditional, popular or original compositions, poems with metre and rhyme, narratives, one-act plays, posters and comic strips.

Providing a rich basis for these literary and artistic works are the narrations of the peasants about their present oppressed conditions and their wholehearted support of the NPA. They speak by way of comparison: "In the old times, with the HMB, it was like carrying a box which contained something you didn't know. Neither did you know where you were bringing it to, and so you easily got tired. Today, however, with the New People's Army, you know that you are carrying a load of gold. It is heavy, but you're not letting it go. That's because you know what it is and where you're bringing it to."



With these as raw materials, the cadres of the NPA can work in collaboration with artists from the people in creating literary and artistic works which raise the revolutionary consciousness of the peasant masses through correct analysis of their problems, widening their perspective and guiding their revolutionary struggles.

The peasants in the guerrilla zones enjoy comic strips such as those appearing in Kalatas Komiks-Magasin and picture magazines and posters from socialist countries such as the People's Republic of China and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The various revolutionary publications such as Ang Bayan and regional mass newspapers guide the masses in the study of the present problems besieging the country, the revolutionary mass actions spearheaded by workers and peasants and the bright future of the struggle for national liberation and democracy.

Even as the countryside is developing into cultural bastions of the revolution, cultural work in the cities, particularly in Manila-Rizal, continues to provide strong support to mass actions such as strikes, boycotts and symposia organized by workers, urban poor and students against the U.S.-Marcos regime. These mass actions give birth to new songs, poems, skits, posters and other visual works which are loved by the masses.

Among the new works produced in the course of mass struggles are original compositions such as "Mayo Uno" (May First) and "Awit ng Bota at Gantso" (Song of Boots and Hooks), the latter being about the batilyos. Workers' slogans serve as basis for new poems, such as "Ang Laban ng Isay Laban ng Lahat" (One Man's Struggle is the Struggle of All).

Revolutionary culture will reach new heights as the Party directs all cultural cadres and mass activists to produce and collect new works of art and literature in the service of the struggle in the countryside and cities. To add vigor to this movement, the publication of Ulos as a national magazine for revolutionary works will be resumed.

While the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship continues to disseminate the bankrupt culture of imperialism, feudalism and fascism and to suppress progressive works by the literary and art circles, the revolutionary culture of the masses of workers and peasants continues to grow and develop as potent weapons in their struggles.

#### RURAL MASS ORGANIZATIONS BOOST FOOD PRODUCTION

The people in a number of Central Luzon barrios are looking forward to extra benefits these days, thanks to a food production campaign launched this summer.

Mass organizations in these barrios have planted a variety of vegetables on idle farmland while awaiting the rainy season when rice can begin to be sown.

The youth and women in these barrios agreed to plant ginger, cucumber, eggplant, corn, ampalaya and others.

Organizing themselves to carry out their plan, some were assigned to ask for seedlings from people in the barrio, others borrowed plows, harrows and carabaos, and still others went around collecting left-over fertilizer.



Work in the fields was collectively carried out. Because so many joined in, even the monotony of regularly watering the plants from distant pumps became a light and merry task.

At last report, the plants were flourishing and the vegetables soon ready for picking. As in the previous years, these will be sold, at low prices, to the barrio people themselves.

The income from the vegetables will be added to the funds of the mass organizations, to be used in their activities in the revolutionary mass movement. A portion is set aside for emergency use by the members.

In the past, the organizations also set aside a part of their earnings to procure weapons for the New People's Army, in yet another demonstration of wholehearted support for the revolutionary armed struggle.

When conditions permit, cadres and fighters of the people's army also work in the fields, thus strengthening the unity between the army and the people.

"This is a good way to make use of our time. In the past, many women used to gossip or gamble because they had nothing else to do," commented a housewife. "Besides, our families are eating well with so many vegetables. It's better than making do with just salt."

Production campaigns are an effective method of consolidating the guerrilla zones of the New People's Army.

Aside from the immediate benefits to the people in the form of cheap, plentiful and nutritious food, production campaigns increase the barrio income and give them valuable experience in collective effort for the common good. The people are able to prove to themselves that problems involving their livelihood can more easily be solved when large numbers are mobilized into action, rather than when each one is left to find an individual solution.

#### MARCOS REGIME TOLD TO RELEASE ALL TORTURED POLITICAL PRISONERS

Political prisoners at Camp Bicutan in Taguig, Metro Manila, have demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners against whom the sole evidence was "tortured into existence".

In a statement issued last May 12, the Bicutan prisoners demanded the adoption by the Marcos government of concrete measures to put more substance into its expressed condemnation of torture.

They urged Marcos to take the following steps:

1. Release immediately and unconditionally all political prisoners against whom the only evidence was obtained by means of torture.
2. Institute full and open investigation of all cases of torture and bring before civil courts the accused intelligence, military or police personnel.
3. Eliminate totally the use of "safehouses" or unidentified places of interrogation, where torture is most often conducted.
4. Formulate, publish and strictly enforce a code of conduct for the decent and humane treatment of political prisoners based on internationally accepted standards for the treatment of prisoners.



Referring to the martial law regime's release of political prisoner Trinidad Herrera, president of the militant Zone One Tondo Organization (ZOTO), and the court martial of military personnel who tortured her, the Bicutan detainees said:

"The government's decision came not out of its own initiative or concern but in reaction to strong protests and criticisms from urban poor communities, religious, intellectuals and civil libertarians throughout the country and in many parts of the world, including the United States."

Countless other victims of torture and maltreatment, including those in the provinces, should be given the same attention by the martial law regime, the political prisoners said.

They mentioned the names of Danilo Lumelay, Edwin Madrigal, Ernesto Orellano, Rolando Leosala, Felix Ortego, Arturo Revilla, Augusto Segarra and Ferdinand Tiamzon, all presently detained in Bicutan. All of them were rounded up at the same time as Herrera and tortured by the military.

Most detainees at Bicutan, a total of 48, underwent torture or maltreatment. Only two cases were investigated and decided by the Marcos government.

"By watering down (these two) cases, extending token investigation to a few other torture victims and ignoring the great majority of torture cases, the government is in effect trying to propagate the myth that there are 'few and isolated' cases (of torture)," the political prisoners charged.

They added:

"If the government is truly serious about its repudiation of the use of torture and its concern for human rights and the rule of law, then it would formulate and implement measures that would render justice to all victims of torture, strictly forbid and discourage the practice of torture and severely punish military and police personnel who inflict physical and mental harm on political prisoners."

#### POLITICAL PRISONERS REAFFIRM UNITY WITH ALL NAT'L DEMOCRATIC FIGHTERS

The Filipino people are no freer today than in the past, but "their hearts beat more intensely for final liberation", according to a June 72 statement issued by political prisoners in the Philippines.

They said the enforced observance by the people of "independence day" was a charade, because genuine independence still has to be proclaimed by the people.

"Until all foreign domination shall have ceased, freedom cannot be truly cherished by our people," the statement said.

Furthermore, there can be no independence when the government promotes the interest of foreign capital and not the interest of the toiling masses, the political prisoners continued.

"In these days of tyranny and injustice," they said, "the hearts of the people beat more intensely for final liberation. Their spirit cannot be cowed by the armed might of the present regime. From all sectors of society, particularly from the basic masses of workers, peasants and the vast masses of the poor, staunch defenders of freedom, justice and the national patrimony are coming out in great numbers, daring and determined to win."



"We who are imprisoned reaffirm our solidarity with all those who are in the fighting front of this struggle. We shall prevail!"

\* \* \*

#### DEPARTURE OF ACCUSED U.S. SOLDIERS SHOWS MARCOS PUPPETRY TO IMPERIALISM

The recent departure of American servicemen facing criminal and civil suits in Philippine courts prove once again the puppetry of the Marcos fascist regime to U.S. imperialism.

These also confirm that the supposedly nationalistic utterings of the fascist chieftain Marcos regarding the U.S. military bases here are just so much air.

In most cases, U.S. military authorities ignored the Philippine courts by issuing "duty certificates" to their offending men and then reassigning them outside the Philippines.

In at least one case, collusion on the part of the Marcos regime was clear in that it did not even bother to take the necessary steps to acquire jurisdiction over an accused American military officer.

Among the accused Americans who were allowed to leave the Philippines recently are:

1. Lt. Col. Robert Moore, chief of the Guam-Philippines Regional Exchange, who left June 21. Along with three others, Moore is accused in a criminal complaint for libel and one of 10 respondents in a P2.6-million damage suit pending before the Angeles City court of first instance. A spokesman of Clark Air Force Base said Moore was allowed to leave because the Marcos government failed to seek "consultations" with the U.S. government as provided for in the U.S.-R.P. Military Bases Agreement.

2. Col. Boyd Hensely, CAFB commander, who is reported to have left either late June or early this month. Hensely was respondent in a charge filed by Paz Evarle of Balibago, Angeles, whose house was unlawfully searched by U.S. soldiers on July 22 last year. The search and seizure order was signed by Hensely.

3. Commander Ronald A. Verplaetse, exchange officer of the Subic Bay Naval Base, who left for the United States June 29. Verplaetse was facing a P1-million damage suit and a criminal charge for unjust vexation in connection with the indecent search conducted on 25 Filipino salongirls in March last year.

4. Sgt. Mark A. Guest, member of CAFB's Office of Special Investigation, who left last April. He was accused in a criminal complaint filed by Teresita Cayabyab, a salos clerk at the Thailand-Philippines Regional Exchange at Clark.

One other case that has attracted wide attention is that of Sgt. Joseph I. Gaines, CAFB security guard, who commanded his trained police dog to assault Fernando Nuguid, of Magalang, Pampanga, while he was gathering scrap metal at the base garbage dump last May 16.

Nuguid has testified before the Angeles City fiscal's office that he already had his hands up when challenged by Gaines, but the sergoant commanded the dog to bite him in the genitals. Also on Gaines' command, the dog bit Nuguid three more times in both legs even as he was being led away.



Clark Field authorities have since sought to evade Gaines' trial by Philippine courts by simply certifying that he was performing an official duty at the time of the incident.

They have also disallowed Gaines from attending the preliminary investigation of the case supposedly because the U.S. government still has to define its position.

In all these cases, the Filipino complainants and even the fiscals and judges denounced the flaunting of Philippine laws by the U.S. military authorities.

Marcos is playing deaf. He is more interested in military assistance from his U.S. imperialist masters to prop up his fascist regime than in fighting for Philippine sovereignty and independence.

\* \* \*

#### THAI PARTY, PEOPLE'S ARMY SCORE VICTORIES IN PEOPLE'S WAR

The revolutionary armed struggle of the people of Thailand is reaching new heights, even as desperate reactionary forces continue to launch massive military operations against the People's Armed Forces (PAF).

New victories in the armed struggle were reported in a recent broadcast by the "Voice of the People of Thailand", according to Peking Review (April 29, 1977).

Since October 6, 1976, when the U.S.-backed fascist military staged a bloody coup d'etat to reimpose martial law in Thailand, extensive guerrilla war has been waged by the PAF under the leadership of the Communist Party of Thailand.

In the first six months of martial law, the PAF fought 246 battles with the enemy, wiping out 1,281 troops (532 killed, 653 wounded and 96 captured), shot down one aircraft and seized 271 weapons of various kinds and a large number of other war equipment. These are incomplete figures.

A broad revolutionary united front is gathering strength. "Militant declarations have been issued by many political parties, public organizations, patriotic democrats, students, workers, peasants, professors, teachers, writers, poets and journalists voicing their determination to stand on the side of the people of the whole country and persist in the armed struggle," the broadcast noted.

After the fascist coup last year, the broadcast said, "the broad masses of the people have learned a bitter lesson and come to realize more clearly that only by taking the road of armed struggle and using the countryside to encircle the cities can the problems of the country and people be truly solved."

As a result, the broadcast continued, broad masses of people from all walks of life, among them many students and youth, have streamed out of the areas under reactionary rule and gone to the vast rural areas and the revolutionary base areas to take part in the armed struggle.

In the neighboring countries of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam, the peoples' armed revolution kicked out U.S. imperialism and their local puppets one after the other in 1974-1975. Sensing that it will soon meet the same doom, the Thai ruling clique has been stepping up its attacks on the people and the people's army.



Thai puppet troops have been enforcing controls on the movement of food and other supplies, in an effort to prevent the people from supporting the revolutionary forces. Mass arrests are being made in many villages, and fascist brutality is widespread.

But, according to the Far Eastern Economic Review of April 22, 1977, "the big military drive seems to have had little effect" although it will continue until September or "as long as our budget will allow", according to one Thai official in charge of the operations.

Meanwhile, in the first week of July, joint operations were carried out on the Thailand-Malaysia border area in southern Thailand, in collaboration with the reactionary armed forces of Malaysia. The joint Thai-Malaysian offensive, which is still going on, is being conducted against Malayan guerrilla forces in the area. With the firm support of the people, however, the revolutionary forces will defeat the enemy offensive as they have done in the past.

The revolutionary people of Thailand are making an important contribution to the Southeast Asian peoples' struggle against U.S. imperialism and their local puppets. They will surely liberate themselves from oppression and exploitation.

\* \* \*